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4. (Amended) The plug-in jack according to claim 3, wherein said jack is barrel-shaped and is provided with several contact shackles at an end opposite said hook.

A3

16. (Amended) A plug part having an insulating plug housing in which there is accommodated at least one plug contact provided for engaging into a jack contact of a plug-in jack according to claim 1.

17. (Amended) The plug part according to claim 16, wherein said plug contact comprises a plug-in portion, an anchor portion and an SMT connection.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend FIGS. 1-7 as shown in red in the attached copies of the drawings.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct a minor clerical error. No new matter has been entered.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121, marked copies of the amended claims and amended specification paragraph showing the changes made therein accompany this Amendment.

The claims have been amended to address the § 112 rejection raised regarding claim 16, and also to conform to U.S. practice. With regard to the term "SMT connection" in claims 15 and 17, the rejection is respectfully traversed. The term "SMT" is an acronym well known in the art, i.e. for "surface mounting technique." As is well known in the art, elements adapted to Surface Mounting Technique are provided with contact pads which are soldered to corresponding contact pads on a printed circuit board or another element, rather than being provided with contact pins which are inserted into an opening in a printed circuit board. Thus, claims 15 and 17 are believed to be neither vague nor ambiguous.

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The drawings have been amended as required by the Examiner. Corrected formal drawings will be filed upon allowance of the Application.

The indicated allowability of claim 5 is noted, with thanks. However, it is believed that all of the claims are patentable over the art.

Claim 1 requires that the jack is mounted on the retaining part so as to be pivotable. It is essential to note that it is the entire jack which is pivotable, and not the individual contact fingers.

Jawelak does not disclose a jack. Rather, Jawelak discloses a plurality of contact fingers which are arranged to form a cluster. There is no mechanical connection between the contact fingers.

Even assuming that Jawelak could be interpreted as showing a jack, such jack would not be pivotable. As can be seen in Figure 3 of Jawelak, each of the contact fingers is supported in groove 44 and is urged by means of springs 70, 72, 78 and 80 against spaced 54. Since the contact fingers engage into groove 44 without any clearance, it is impossible for the entire jack to pivot. Compare the subject Application, which describes in detail that the annular groove into which the hooks of the jack engage needs to be longer in an axial direction than the hooks, in order to allow a pivotal movement of the jack. (Please refer to page 6 of the specification, lines 15 to 18.)

Even assuming that the jack in Figure 4 of Jawelak could pivot in a clockwise direction, the contact finger on the left side would be required to shift upwardly, whereas the contact finger on the right side would be required to shift downwardly. As the springs hold the lower ends of the contact fingers in groove 44, such shifting movement is prevented.

Further, it is to be noted that each of the contact fingers shown in Jawelak is provided with a notch 60, 62 into which spacer 54 engages. This also prevents any pivotal movement of the jack shown in Jawelak.

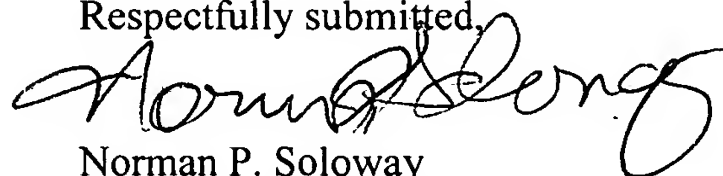
Finally, it is noted that Jawelak does not contain any teaching or suggestion that the plurality of contact fingers may be pivoted as a unit. The specification only states that the contact fingers either slightly collapse or slightly expand (please see column 2, lines 57 to 62).

Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims cannot be said to be obvious from Jawelak.

With regard to the species election requirement, Applicant affirms the previous election, i.e., of species 1, and claims 1-4 and 15-18 which read thereon. Further, with regard to the foregoing, it is noted the Examiner acknowledges claim 1 to be generic. Accordingly, since claim 1 has not been amended, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner rejoin the nonelected claims, and pass all of the claims to allowance.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

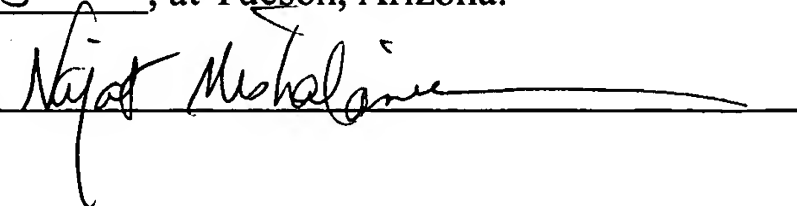


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 23, 2003, at Tucson, Arizona.

By



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MARKED AMENDED
SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPH

Serial No. 10/067,656
Docket No.: PRINZ H1740

MARKED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPH

Paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3:

As may be seen in Figs. 6 and 7, the retaining part 16 of the plug-in jack 10 is realized with a flat, rectangular cross-section. At a distance from the free front end of the retaining part 16, there is formed a retaining opening [80] 70 which is rectangular.

MARKED AMENDED CLAIMS

Serial No. 10/067,656
Docket No.: PRINZ H1740

MARKED CLAIMS

3. (Amended) The plug-in jack according to claim 2, wherein said spring shackles have free ends and are provided with one hook on each of said free ends.
4. (Amended) The plug-in jack according to claim [2] 3, wherein said jack is barrel-shaped and is provided with several contact shackles at an end opposite said hook.
16. (Amended) A plug part having an insulating plug housing in which there is accommodated at least one plug contact provided for engaging into [said] a jack contact of a plug-in jack according to claim 1.
17. (Amended) The plug part according to claim 16, wherein said plug contact comprises a plug-in portion, an anchor portion and an SMT connection.



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MARKED AMENDED DRAWINGS

Serial No. 10/067,656

Docket No.: PRINZ H1740

All Approved
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Fig. 1

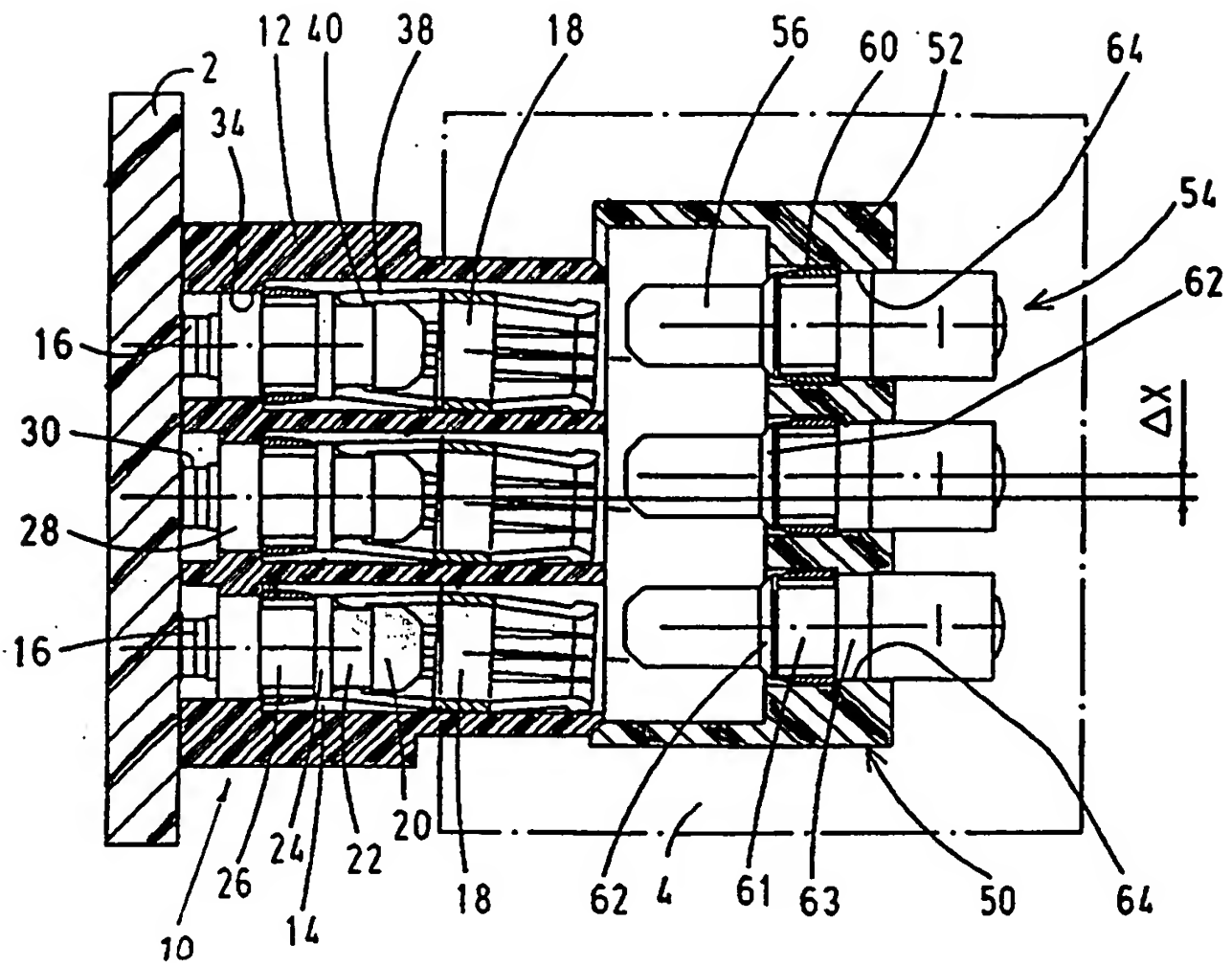


Fig. 2

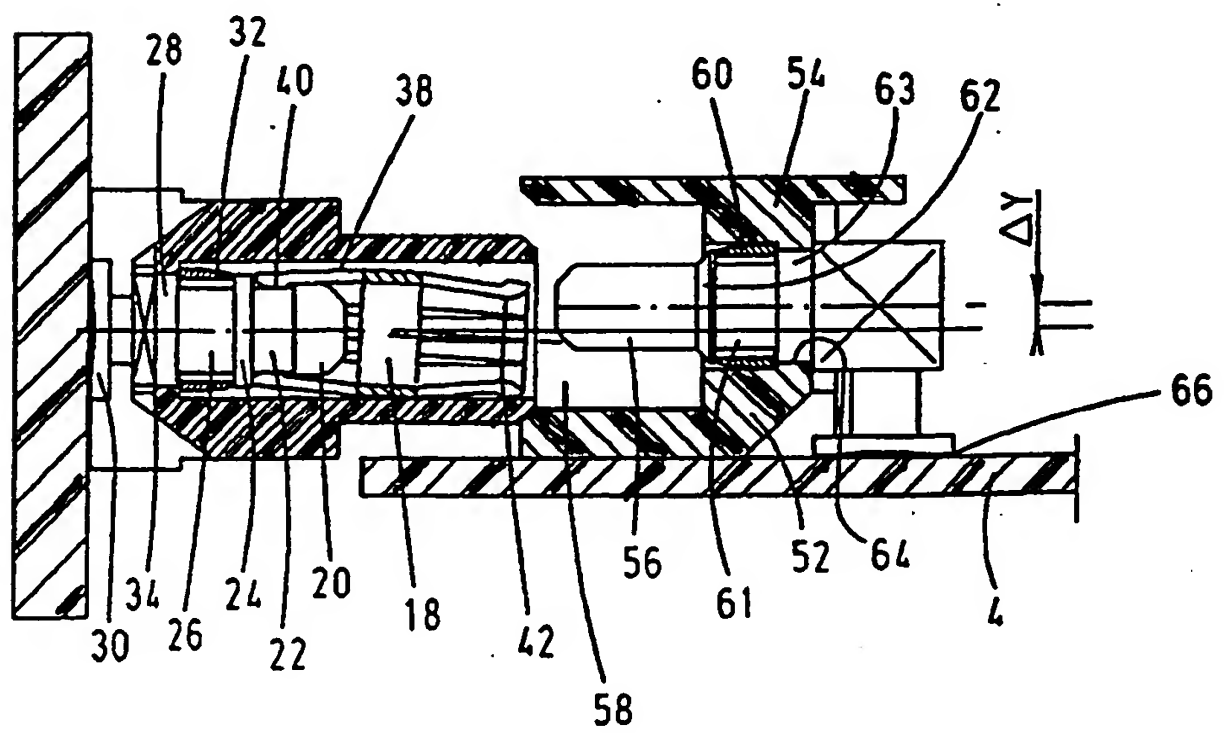


Fig. 3

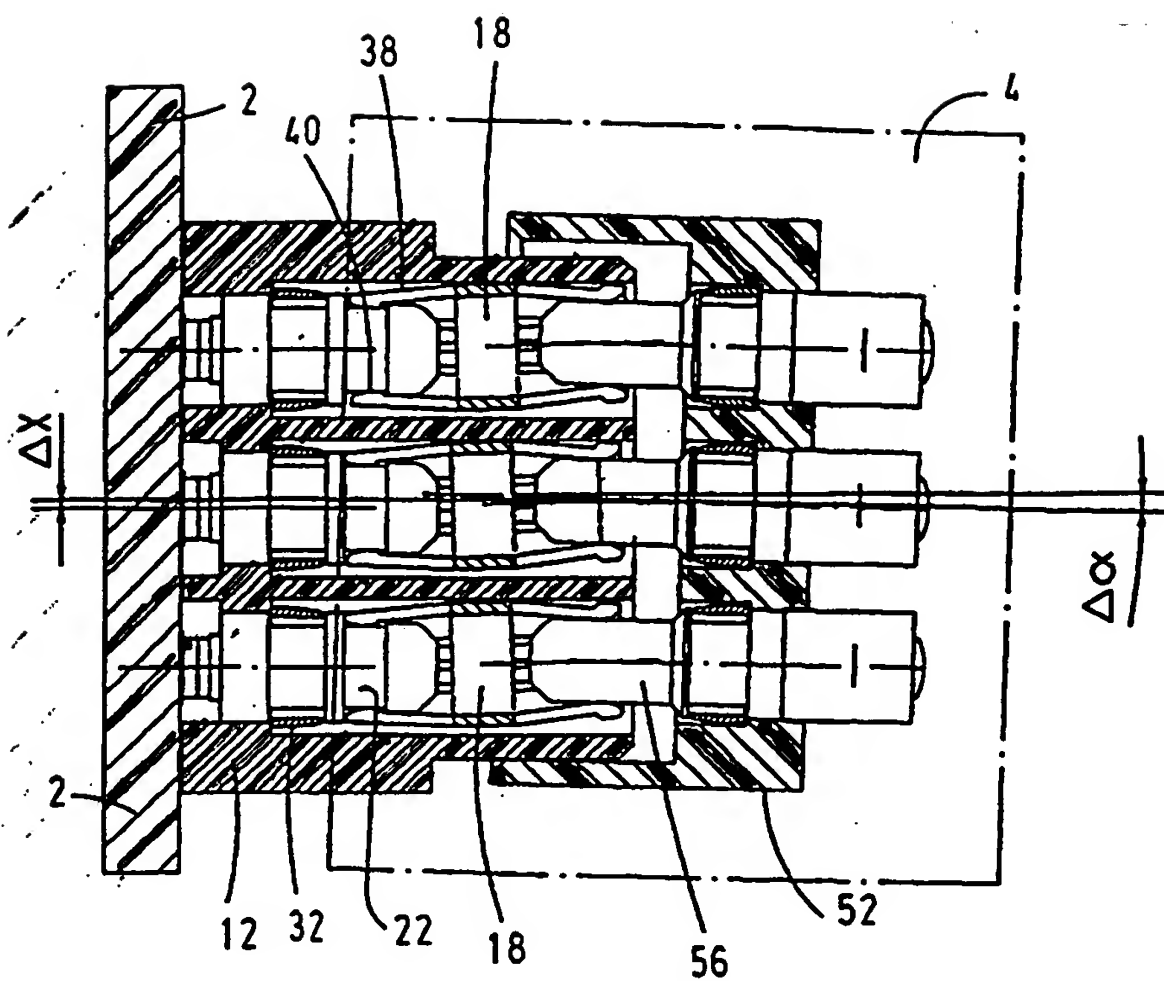


Fig. 4

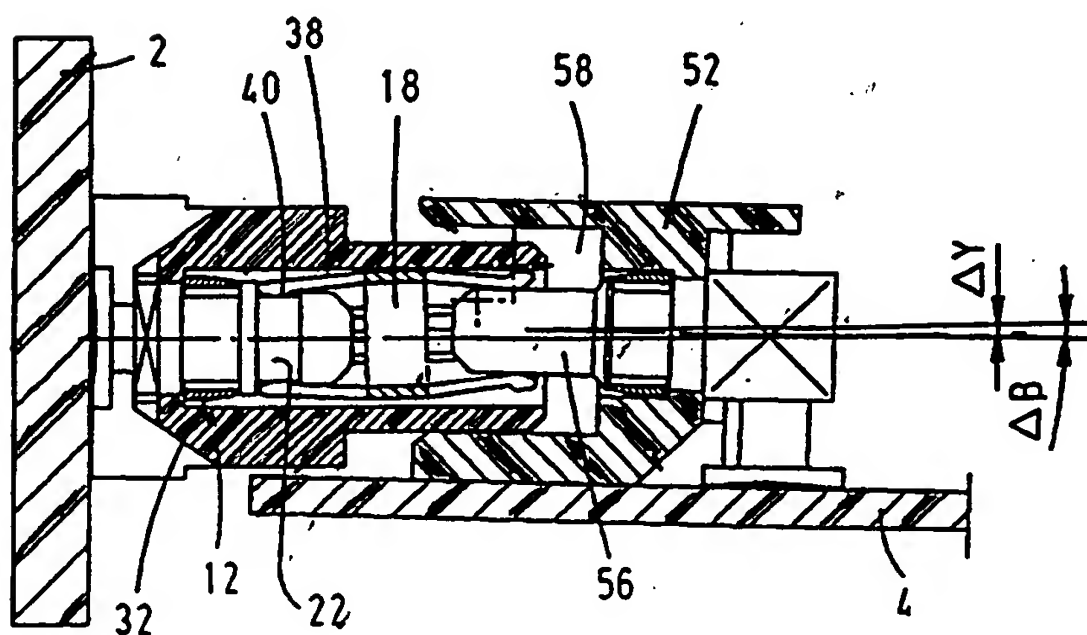


Fig. 5

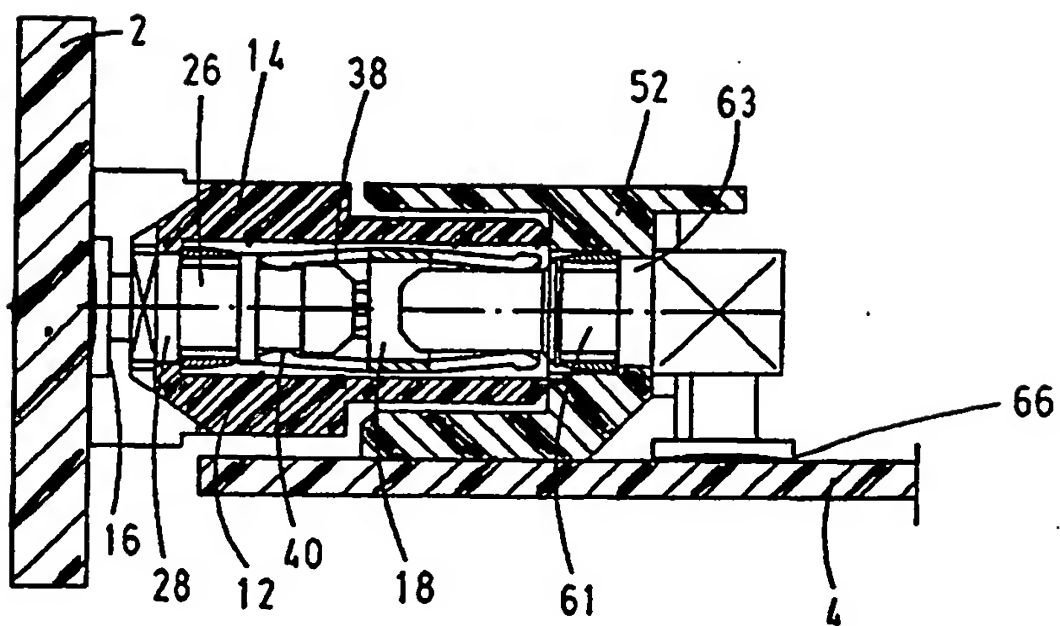


Fig.6

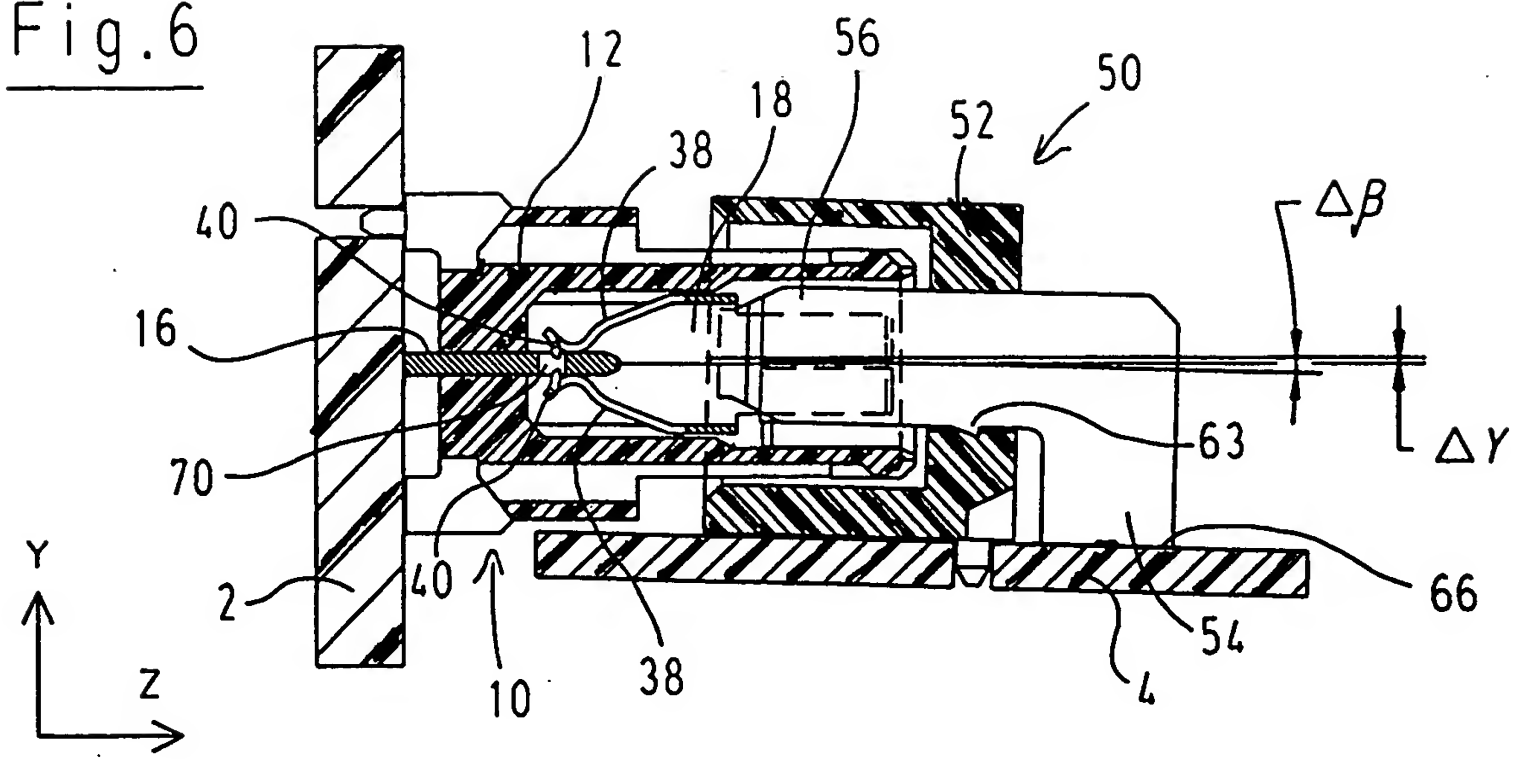


Fig.7

